REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending. Claims 1-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,172,669 to Murphy et al. ("Murphy") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,657,055 to Kansal et al. ("Kansal"). In view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and asks that they be withdrawn. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I.   The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 1 - Hypothetical Combination Renders Murphy Unsuitable for Its Intended Purpose

Applicant respectfully submits that the hypothetical combination suggested in the Office Action would render Murphy unsuitable for its intended purpose, and the hypothetical combination would not be made by one having ordinary skill in the art. (Please see MPEP 2143.02).

In the Response to Arguments section, the Office Action alleges that the motivation to use an indicator in the line buffer originates in column 7, lines 25-30 of Murphy. However, the cited portion of Murphy concerns transfer of graphic data. In applying the cited portion of Murphy to the video line buffer, the Office Action renders Murphy unsuitable for its intended purpose.

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Murphy clearly teaches that the transfer of video data and graphic data occurs alternately, so that a lower bandwidth operation can be employed. (See the Abstract of Murphy). In order to achieve its bandwidth advantage, Murphy uses the following data transfer method.

Murphy teaches that in a CRT monitor, displayed information is presented in the form of parallel scan lines. During the active portion of the scan, electron guns are scanning a line on the display. During the blanked part of the scan, the electron guns are reset from one side of the display to the other. (Please see column 6, lines 48-65 of Murphy).

During the active part of the scan, Murphy teaches that graphic data is transferred from the display buffer in a burst. (Please see column 7, lines 15-17 of Murphy). Note that during the active part of the scan, the scan line of video data that had previously been stored in the video line buffer is being displayed.

During the blanked part of the scan, video data for the next scan line is transferred to the video line buffer in a burst. (Please see column 7, lines 23-26 of Murphy). That is, an entire line of video data is transferred during the blank time. This line of video data is transferred during a time when video data is not being displayed.

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If the suggested modification of Murphy were made, data would need to be transferred to the video line buffer during the active portion of the scan. That is, in order to transfer data to the video line buffer when it is half full, the transfer would need to be made halfway through the active portion of the scan. However, according to the system of Murphy, the active portion of the scan is reserved for the transfer of graphic data.

Thus, the Office Action's suggested modification of Murphy renders Murphy unsuitable for its intended purpose. Rather than interleaving the transfer of graphic and video data and achieving the attendant reduced bandwidth, the Office Action suggests that video data be transferred during the time Murphy explicitly reserves for the transfer of graphic data. A person of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to make such a modification.

For at least this reason, claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Murphy and Kansal.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks herein, Claims 1-23 are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. The foregoing comments made with respect to the positions taken by the Examiner are not to be construed as acquiescence with other positions of the Examiner that have not been explicitly contested. Accordingly, Applicants' arguments for patentability of a claim should not be construed as implying that there are not other valid reasons for patentability of that claim or other claims.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (858) 678-5070. No fee is believed to be due at this time. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:_____   _____

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